

Public Invited to Use Information Repositories

The following information repositories contain current information technical reports and reference documents on environmental restoration at the Rocky Flats Plant

DOE Rocky Flats Public Reading Room
Front Range Community College Library
3645 West 112th Avenue
Level B Center of Building
Westminster Colorado 80030
303 469 4435

Hours Monday - Tuesday 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Thursday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Rocky Flats Environmental Monitoring Council
1536 Cole Boulevard Suite 150
Denver West Office Park Building 4
Golden Colorado 80401
303-232 1966

Hours By Appointment

Calendar of Events

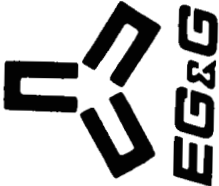
Rocky Flats Environmental Monitoring Council Meetings 7:00 p.m. March 26 and April 30 1991 Front Range Community College Student Lounge (see address above)
General Rocky Flats Plant Tours Tours are currently suspended but are expected to resume in April or May Please call 303-966 5870 for information
Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement Information Meeting 7:00 p.m. April 4 1991 - Westminster City Park Recreation Center 10455 N Sheridan Boulevard Westminster (tentative)
Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping Hearings 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. April 8 - Jefferson County Commissioners Hearing Room 1700 Arapahoe Golden and April 11 - Westminster City Park Recreation Center 10455 N Sheridan Boulevard Westminster (tentative)
Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Reconfiguration Public Scoping Hearing 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. April 3 1991 - Denver West Marriott 1717 Denver West Boulevard (near I 70 and Colfax) Golden

EG&G Rocky Flats Inc
P O Box 464
Golden CO 80402 0464



ROCKY FLATS

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION
UPDATE



A PERIODIC UPDATE ON ROCKY FLATS CLEANUP MARCH 1991

Interim Remedial Action Plans 881 Hillside and 903 Pad

When any hazardous waste site is thought to contain contamination posing potential risk to human health or the environment a series of cleanup studies and actions is initiated In areas where contamination risk warrants an urgent response near term interim actions are initiated because of the extensive time it typically takes to follow the longer term route of investigating the nature and extent of contamination and identifying the cleanup option

Hillside 881 (Operable Unit 1 or OU1) was listed as a high priority cleanup site needing interim action because of elevated concentrations of volatile organic compounds in the ground water and its proximity to Woman Creek The 903 Pad Mound and East Trenches (Operable Unit 2 or OU2) was rated a medium priority cleanup site also warranting interim action because of contaminated ground water and surface water

Interim Measures/Interim Remedial Action (IM/IRA) Plans and Decision Documents for both sites were prepared to identify screen and evaluate appropriate interim remedial action alternatives and to present the preferred interim remedial action

881 Hillside Drain Designed

Engineering design for the 881 Hillside (OU1) French drain which will intercept contaminated ground water on an interim basis was submitted for approval to the U S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in February 1991 In addition the final phase of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) from which the final cleanup of OU1 will be designed will begin this spring

The preferred interim action for OU1 involves collecting contaminated ground water from within OU1 with a French drain system pumping this water to a newly constructed treatment facility and processing and discharging treated water to the South Interceptor Ditch which drains into holding pond C 2

Construction of the French drain is presently planned to begin in June 1991 three months ahead of schedule Following the start of construction of the French drain standard operational testing will begin in August 1991 to ensure that the treatment plant can effectively treat contaminated water

Preliminary engineering and construction activities leading to construction of the French drain itself have been ongoing for the last year These include

Design of ground water collection facilities - the French drain intercepts and contains ground water from the hillside

Design and construction of influent tanks - to hold the collected contaminated ground water before it passes through the water treatment system

Design and construction of the water treatment building - the water treatment system will be housed in a separate building away from the French drain and

Design and construction of the effluent tanks - to protect public health and the environment the treated ground water is stored in the effluent tanks while awaiting analysis results to ensure that it meets acceptable standards before it is released

The overall objective of the IM/IRA Plan at OU1 is prevention of release and migration of ground water contaminants and cleanup of existing ground water contamination The IM/IRA Plan must also be consistent with the final remedy There is no immediate threat to public health or the environment because the affected ground water is contained within RFP boundaries

For more information on the IM/IRA Plan please see the November 1990 Update or the full IM/IRA Plan which is available at the information repositories listed on page 4

ADMIN RECORD

903 Pad Documents

The Surface Water Interim Measures/Interim Remedial Action (IM/IRA) Plan Environmental Assessment and Decision Document for 903 Pad Mound and East Trenches Areas (OU2) will be available soon at the information repositories listed on page 4 It will be announced in the New Documents Box in the next Update This IM/IRA Plan calls for the collection and treatment of contaminated surface water from two culvert discharges and one surface water seep point into the South Walnut Creek basin area

In addition the Responsiveness Summary addressing the concerns raised during the public comment period and the October 23 1990 public meeting on the preferred treatment methods for OU2 will also be available soon In response to public comments a separate IM/IRA Plan will be issued to address ground water seeps that are emerging in the Woman Creek drainage area Originally the identified OU2 contaminated surface water sources in both South Walnut Creek and Woman Creek drainages were to be addressed under the same IM/IRA Plan The draft for the Woman Creek IM/IRA Plan is scheduled to be released late in 1991 or early in 1992

As mentioned in the November 1990 Update OU2 is considered a medium priority cleanup site because there is a potential threat to public health and the environment The contamination at 903 Pad and Mound Areas is largely attributed to the storage of waste drums in the 1950s and 1960s that corroded over time allowing hazardous and radioactive materials to leak into the surrounding soil The East Trenches Areas were used for the disposal of plutonium and uranium contaminated waste and sanitary sewage sludge This ultimately resulted in the contamination of

RFP 1991 Site Specific Plan Issued

The *RFP Site Specific Plan (SSP)* for Fiscal Year 1991 (FY91) was issued January 1991. The FY91 SSP complements the *Rocky Flats Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Five Year Plan* and the DOE wide *Five Year Plan Fiscal Years 1992 – 1996* which was distributed in June 1990.

The SSP summarizes RFP environmental management plans with an emphasis on work to be performed in FY91. RFP environmental activities outlined in the SSP fall into the four major programs listed below:

Corrective Activities involving plans to bring the site into compliance with federal and state regulations and agreements pertaining to air, surface and ground water, and soils at RFP. These plans include monitoring of volatile organic compounds, upgrading radioactive stack monitoring, and preparing a comprehensive emissions inventory.

Environmental Restoration including the cleanup of areas that have been contaminated in the past, are closed or are not being used in normal operations. 881 Hillside (OU1), 903 Pad Mound, and East Trenches (OU2) and Solar Evaporation Ponds (OU4) are the focus of 1991 cleanup activities.

Waste Management dealing with minimization, treatment, storage, and disposal of plant waste. RFP 1991 plans include waste stream characterization, solid and liquid waste treatment upgrades, and storage facility upgrades.

Technology Development identifying and demonstrating new or existing technologies that will allow RFP to satisfy its environmental management goals. These plans include liquid carbon dioxide cleaning, mixed waste destruction, and robotics application.

The *RFP SSP* is part of DOE's long range plan to clean up and bring its nuclear weapons facilities into compliance with environmental laws and regulations. The planning process includes the annual issuance of a DOE wide *Five Year Plan* supported by an SSP at each facility.

The purpose of the *Five Year Plan* is to 1) establish an agenda for cleanup and compliance against which progress will be measured; 2) publicize DOE's current strategy and planned activities to meet cleanup and compliance commitments; and 3) increase the involvement of other agencies and the public in DOE's planning.

The SSP serves as the public comment vehicle for environmental restoration and waste management plans at RFP. Each SSP is influenced by public comment. The draft version of the 1992 SSP will be available during the summer of 1991 for a 60 day public comment period. Public meetings will again be held during this comment period to provide an opportunity for questions and comments. Comments received will be used to revise the SSP, as well as to provide input to the national *Five Year Plan*.

Both the *RFP SSP* and the DOE wide *Five Year Plan FY92-96* have been placed at the information repositories listed on page 4.

A 60 day public comment period on the *FY91 SSP* runs until April 15, 1991. Comments received during this public comment period will be incorporated in the draft of the *FY92 SSP*. Comments can be submitted to: Beth Branard, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Department of Energy, RFO P.O. Box 928, Golden, Colorado 80402-0928.

903 Pad Documents

the surface water and ground water. However, there is no immediate danger to public health or the environment because the contaminated surface water is contained within existing retention ponds at RFP, and discharges from these ponds meet required quality standards.

The selected cleanup method in the *I/M/RA Plan* (South Walnut Creek) is chemical precipitation with cross-flow membrane filtration for removal of suspended solids, radionuclides, and metals, followed by granular activated carbon adsorption for removal of volatile organic compounds. In this process, chemical additives cause metals and soluble radionuclides in the water to form particles large enough to be filtered or settled out.

The early phases of the pilot field treatability tests will intercept water from one contaminated seep that flows into South Walnut Creek and will also withdraw surface water from South Walnut Creek. After treatment, the water will be returned to South Walnut Creek above the retention ponds. Hence, immediately upon startup, the field treatability test unit will provide the added benefit of reducing the contaminant load on the surface water system. Additional treatment units will be installed at a later date to evaluate radionuclides and metals removal. Construction of sumps and the entire field treatability test unit is scheduled for completion in late fall, 1992.

Construction of the first field treatability test unit, which will evaluate the effectiveness of the organics removal methods, has been delayed by one month due to security considerations and revised contracting procedures. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has submitted a request for approval of this extension to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Colorado Department of Health (CDH).

Boulder Repository

G&G Community Relations established an additional information repository in the Boulder Public Library (BPL) in February of 1991 at the request of the City of Boulder. The BPL's availability during evening and weekend hours will provide greater opportunity for people to examine RFP documents. The library is located at 1000 Canyon Boulevard on the corner of Canyon Boulevard and 9th Street (west of Broadway), and the hours are:

Monday – Thursday	9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday – Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

This repository will contain all deliverables identified in the *Interagency Agreement (IAG)*, plus the major historical documents that are currently available at the four other repositories (see page 4). In addition, the *Administrative Record* will be available on microfiche and periodically updated. Future documents that are not required by the IAG but are considered important public documents will be sent to the BPL, as well.

If you have any questions about the contents of the new information repository, please call Connie Walker at the Boulder Public Library at 441-3100.

New Documents Available

The following documents are available at the reading rooms listed on page 4:

- Proposed Final RFP Community Relations Plan – Environmental Restoration Program*
- Interim Community Relations Plan – Environmental Restoration Program*
- RFP SSP FY91*
- Nuclear Weapons Complex Reconfiguration Study*
- RFP IAG and Responsiveness Summary*

Site Wide EIS Initiated

The site wide *Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)* is a broad scope document that will evaluate and identify past, present, future, and cumulative impacts of all cleanup actions at RFP. The study will cover ongoing activities, planned upgrades, and proposed actions anticipated over the next five to ten years.

This study should take approximately two to three years to complete and will not address relocation of Rocky Flats plutonium operations elsewhere since that will be addressed in the *Reconfiguration PEIS* (see box at right).

This site wide *EIS* is the first *EIS* conducted specifically at RFP in ten years. The purpose of the 1991 *EIS* is to provide an updated evaluation of site wide impacts, particularly in light of changes at RFP, including shutdown of manufacturing activities over a year ago.

The public is invited to attend an information meeting on the site wide *EIS*, which will be followed by two scoping hearings. At these scoping hearings, DOE will solicit public comment on areas that should be studied during preparation of the *EIS*. Initial plans include consideration of near term operations, environmental restoration, waste management, worker health, public health, socioeconomic impact, water quality, air quality, transportation, and ecological resources.

Please see page 4 for meeting dates and locations which were tentative at the time this article was written. All *Update* subscribers will receive notice of confirmed dates by mail.

All interested parties are encouraged to submit scoping comments or speak at the scoping hearings. Written and oral comments will be considered equally. Written comments may be submitted to:

Rich Schassburger
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 928
Golden, CO 80402-0928

Interagency Agreement Finalized

EPA, CDH, and DOE signed an *Interagency Agreement (IAG)* on January 22, 1991, which defines each agency's jurisdiction and the regulations that will guide cleanup of RFP. The *IAG* also provides for interim remedial actions that will expedite responses to medium and high priority operable units (OUs). This agreement ensures compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), and the Colorado Hazardous Waste Act (CHWA). It also establishes schedules for developing, implementing, and monitoring response actions among EPA, CDH, and DOE.

Since the signing of the *IAG*, several changes have been made to deliverable dates for some of the documents that define procedures for how the studies will be conducted. The approved schedule changes are shown below:

Document	Originally Due	Now Due
Final Standard Operating Procedure Addendum for OU1	Phase III RFI/RI Workplan	January 25, 1991
Final Standard Operating Procedures	Vol. 4: Surface Water; Vol. 5: Ecology	January 25, 1991
Final Quality Assurance Project Plan		February 1, 1991
Final Standard Operating Procedures –		
Vol. 1: Field Operations; Vol. 2: Ground Water; Vol. 3: Geotechnical; Vol. 6: Air		February 1, 1991
Final Standard Operating Procedure Addendum for OU2 – Phase II RFI/RI Workplan		February 1, 1991
Draft Workplan for Discharge Limits for Radionuclides		March 18, 1991
Final Treatability Study Plan		February 25, 1991
		March 1, 1991
		March 1, 1991
		April 5, 1991
		June 3, 1991

Most of these extensions, which were granted by EPA and CDH under the terms of the *IAG*, result from changes in DOE's contracting procedures made to fully meet requirements of *Federal Acquisition Regulations*. The changes are important since private consulting companies are involved in much of the cleanup work. The *Final Treatability Study Plan* schedule was extended primarily to address a broader range of treatment alternatives than originally contemplated in the *IAG*. The changes are not expected to affect the schedule for completion of field work or final cleanup plans, such as *Investigation Reports*, *Proposed Plans*, or *Records of Decision*.

Reconfiguration PEIS Announced

DOE has announced its intent to prepare a *Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)* for Reconfiguration of the Nuclear Weapons Complex.

A public scoping hearing will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. April 3, 1991, at the Denver West Marriott to solicit suggestions on the range of issues to be studied in the *PEIS*. Breaks will be held from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Persons unable to attend the meeting may submit written suggestions to DOE at the address below. The comments must be postmarked no later than September 30, 1991.

James R. Nicks
Deputy Director
Complex Reconfiguration Task Force
DP-27, Room GA-045
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

A *PEIS* addresses nationwide environmental policy issues and procedures associated with specific DOE programs. This particular *PEIS* is being conducted to evaluate the environmental consequences of potential redesign (reconfiguration) of the nuclear weapons complex to create a network of smaller, less diverse and more cost efficient operations.

DOE has also issued a *Nuclear Weapons Complex Reconfiguration Study* to assess the problems currently facing the DOE complex.